

Jeff Smith and Kid Sheeler
Meet Tonight in Ardmore Ring

THE TIMES' COMPLETE SPORTING PAGE

Schoolboy Baseball Campaign
Of Ten Games Begins April 19

He Forgot to Mention the Politicians

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By TAD



JEFF SMITH FEATURES TONIGHT'S RING SHOW

By LOUIS A. DOUGHER.

Washington fans tonight get their first peek at Jeff Smith, a middle-weight who has battled Georges Carpentier, hero of France's sport world, and the late lamented Les Darcy, Australia's greatest contribution to the boxing world since Bob Fitzsimmons rushed to the world's championship. Smith will clash in a fifteen-round contest at Ardmore with Kid Sheeler, the husky youngster from Frederick, Md. This bout marks the opening of the ring campaign for the Capital.

Both principals in the main attraction are said to be in wonderful physical condition and neither expects any trouble at making 159 pounds at 3 o'clock today. They should enter the ring at Ardmore weighing around 165 pounds. Smith is an army boxing instructor at Camp Dix, Wrightstown, N. J., not so very far from his home in Bayonne. Constant exercise with the gloves and on the roads has made him hard as nails, and he looks for a knockout victory over Sheeler tonight.

Sheeler, who has been meeting all comers in the ring, never felt better in his life. He promises to put over the sleep walk on his opponent at the first opportunity.

Smith is a veteran. He has performed before the public about seven years, and in that time has met many of the leading men in his class.

Back in 1911 he tussled with such boxers as Willie Lewis, Jimmy Clabby, "Fighting Dick" Nelson, and Paddy Levin in no-decision bouts, while he knocked out the veteran Charlie Seiger in two rounds and Eddie Reeder went down before him in one round.

He put away Young Loughrey, of Philadelphia, in two rounds, the following year and faced Mike Gibbons, Jimmy Howard, and Mike Glover in ten-round no-decision bouts. He was given a decision over George Chip in fifteen rounds.

Smith went to France in 1913 and fought five battles. He knocked out Adrian Hogan, the French boxer, in eleven rounds, received two decisions, one by Bernard, drew with Frank Mantell, the American middleweight, and lost to Georges Carpentier in twenty rounds.

Smith is in Australia. In 1914 and 1915 Smith fought in Australia. He lost to Eddie McGee, the American boxer, in twenty rounds and to Mick King, the Australian, in the same distance in 1914 at Sydney, but he flattened Pat Bradley in sixteen rounds and won from Jimmy Clabby in twenty sessions.

On January 23, 1915, Smith entered

IOWA'S GOVERNOR GOES TO FUNERAL OF GOTCH
HUMBOLDT, Iowa, Dec. 20.—No greater personal tribute was ever given an athlete than occurred here when Gov. W. L. Harding attended the funeral services in the Congregational Church and later followed the bier of Frank Gotch, world's champion catch-as-catch-can wrestler, to the grave. The Masonic order conducted the simple services, which were most impressive.

KILLER DENIES TALE.
LOS ANGELES, Dec. 20.—Colonel Baker is not telling exactly the whole truth when he says I wouldn't play with the Philadelphia club again, says Bill Killifer, the backstop sold with Alexander to the Chicago Cubs. "I never had any trouble with Baker or Moran, but I'm glad to be with the Cubs, just the same."

ANNOUNCES BIG GAMES.
HANOVER, N. H., Dec. 20.—The Dartmouth football schedule for next year, as announced today by the athletic council, is as follows: October 5, Springfield, N. C. A.; 12, Massachusetts; 19, Penn State; 26, Syracuse, at New York; November 2, New Hampshire State; 9, Pennsylvania at Philadelphia; 16, Boston College; 23, Brown, at Boston.

HEAD HOLD A WINNER.
NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Strangler Lewis is defeating opponent after opponent with his punishing head hold. Tommy Drak, of Holland, is added to the list of victims today, and in tonight's bout Lewis hopes to dispose of George Manich, the Serbian entry.

MAHAN GETS CHANCE.
CAMBRIDGE, Mass., Dec. 20.—Edie Mahan, now serving in the marine corps, Philadelphia, has been given permission to attend the third officers' reserve training camp at Yaphank, N. Y., according to word received here today.

CHICAGO—Fred Pfeffer, who has signed with the Cubs to play second base next season, is said to have cost Charlie Weegham a cool \$10,000 in a bonus for putting his name on paper and his salary is \$36,750 a year.

BENTLEY IS AHEAD.
Richard Bentley defeated Frank Kelly at Yoh's last night in the fifth game of the pocket billiard tournament there by 100 to 82.

STOBBS WOULD FLY.
WASHINGTON, Pa., Dec. 20.—William B. Stobbs, crack quarterback of the W. and J. eleven, has been accepted for the third officers' reserve camp. He hopes to become an aviator.

WILL PLAY OFF TIE.
Harry Stanford and A. M. Bissell, tied for top honors in Sherman's pocket billiard tournament will play off a match at 100 points at Sherman's tonight.

WILLARD AGAINST DECISION BATTLE FOR GREAT TITLE

CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—Jess Willard, world's champion heavyweight, today took some of the edge off his proposal to defend his title for the benefit of the Red Cross.

Willard said he would enter the ring in defense of the championship, if the United States Government would remove the ban on the moving pictures of the bout, contributing his share to the Red Cross.

"However, the bout for the Red Cross must be for ten rounds without decision," said Willard emphatically. "I should prefer it to be held at either the Cubs park or Comiskey park on the south side of Chicago, though I have no objection to any other large city, such as New York, Boston, or Philadelphia."

The champion also suggested that a committee of five prominent newspapermen choose his opponent.

JACK HENDRICKS LOSES CHANCE OF PROMOTION

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., Dec. 20.—Jack Hendricks will not be named as manager of the St. Louis Cardinals for 1918. J. C. McGill, owner and president of the local American Association club, has declined Branch Rickey's offer of \$10,000 for the Indians' successful manager.

Hendricks' case hinged on the deal for the transfer of the Indianapolis club to a syndicate. The local men who sought the franchise have allowed their option to lapse, leaving McGill in charge.

McGill, who has another year to serve under his present contract.

KOLEHMAINEN MAY RUN FOR MEADOWBROOKERS

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Hannes Kolehmainen, the Finn runner, made application to the committee of the Metropolitan Association yesterday for a change of registration to the Middle Atlantic Association.

It is said that "Koley" will hereafter represent the Meadowbrook Club of Philadelphia, in athletic competition. He will not be eligible to represent his new organization until four months have expired.

What Army Draft Has Made of Moguls

CHICAGO—Garry Herrmann today announced that he had paid \$6,000 for the release of Lena Blackburne.

ST. LOUIS—Nig Cuppy, the famous slow pitcher, has decided to consider Fielder Jones' offer of \$20,000 for a year's toil on the mound for the Browns.

PITTSBURGH—Kitty Bransfield, coming back to the Pirates after a long absence, will drag down the princely salary of \$25,000 a year, according to Barney Dreyfuss. "Nothing is too good for Pittsburgh fans," says Barney, chuckling.

CINCINNATI—"Red" Evers' salary, says Julius Fleischmann, one of the Redland magnates, is not a cent less than \$35,000, with a bonus of \$10,000 if he wins fifteen games next season.

BALTIMORE—Jack Dunn has just sold Fawcett, returned by the Yankees, to Jim Dunn's Cleveland club for \$37,000 and two players.

NEW YORK—Sam Crane, for years a baseball writer here, has gone back to his old love. Yesterday he signed with the Hagerstown, Md., club of the Fall Grass League at a salary of \$40,000. Sam says he is as good as ever.

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Richard Bentley defeated Frank Kelly at Yoh's last night in the fifth game of the pocket billiard tournament there by 100 to 82.

Dope on Tonight's Show

Main bout—Jeff Smith, Bayonne, N. J., vs. Kid Sheeler, Frederick, Md.; fifteen rounds at 159 pounds.
Semi-final—Al Britt, Baltimore, vs. Paul Edwards, Brooklyn; eight rounds at 133 pounds.
Prelim—Jack Cunningham, of Washington, vs. Kid Egan, of Washington; six rounds at catch weight.
Prelim—Finney Morgan, Washington, vs. Frankie Parrilli, Washington; four rounds, par-perweights.
Battle royal under direction of "Toots" Brown.
Show starts at 8:30 o'clock. Special trains leave Fifteenth and H streets northeast at 7:15 and 8 o'clock, returning after the show.

SHORT SPORT TALKS

By Louis A. Dougher

Possible chances of Jess Willard's defending his world's championship are looking up.

Prodged by Fred Fulton's threat to lay claim to the title if Willard failed to come forward by December 20, 1917, the conqueror of the shell that was once John Arthur Johnson is quoted as saying that he is willing to meet anybody anywhere some time next summer, if "all the proceeds are turned over to the Red Cross."

On the face of this offer from Willard, it would appear as a serious stumbling block, this mention of turning over the proceeds to the Red Cross. Willard has cleaned up close to a million since defeating Jack Johnson, but Fred Fulton is far from wealthy. It costs a lot of money to prepare for a title bout between heavyweights, and it is possible that Willard believed his peculiar offer would smother all opponents. If so, he has failed.

From all sides are springing up challengers willing to tackle him and give all the proceeds to the Red Cross. Fred Fulton, of course, is the most prominent. Plenty of backing is found for him, according to reports. Sam Langford, Joe Jeannette, and Frank Moran have all expressed their willingness to meet Willard for the championship, giving the Red Cross all the proceeds.

Matt Hinkel, the Cleveland promoter, is willing to underwrite a bout between Willard and Fulton for \$1,000,000, providing the contest is held in New York, Philadelphia, or Cleveland, and is for at least twenty-five rounds.

Yes, Fulton's threat to claim the title has smothered Willard out of his hole. The chances of their meeting are looking up.

You Rash Thing, Clarice!
Griff has given one Bert for another Bert. If Shotton is a flivver, and Gallia a winner, will Griff be a fibber? Go get 'im, squirrel!

Ping Bodie's "Comeback."
When Francisco Pizello left Chicago a chorus of loud hoots followed him. When he came back to the big show as a member of the Mackmen sneers were seen on the faces of managers and players in the American League. But it's about time they quit laughing at Ping Bodie, for he has made good.

Playing with a tail-end club, Ping thumped the pill for a mark of .291, giving him twenty-first place in the league. He hammered out seven home runs, three more than the entire Washington club collected for the season, twenty-eight two-baggers and eleven triples. He looked pretty good at bat.

It is customary to look at the assist column to see how good outfielders are. Center fielders are usually considered the most likely to get assists. Ty Cobb had 27 last year. Speaker had 23. Hooper, Lewis, and Walker, the Red Sox strong-armed trio, each contributed 20 to the totals. Jacobson had 25, Strunk 15, Zeb Milan 18, Felch 24, Elmer Miller 16, but Ping Bodie, playing left field, turned in 32 assists, the highest total for the 1917 season.

Guess they'll quit laughing at Ping next year.

That Training Table.
Pennsylvania is urging the return of the training table, especially for football players. It is said that the Quakers suffered considerably last fall from being overtrained, and both Bob Fowlwell and Lawson Robertson believed it was caused by the absence of a training table.

Injuries in football are usually attributed to the poor physical condition of those hurt. Seldom is a perfectly trained athlete injured on the gridiron. If he is, it is because he is playing after being exhausted. But if the Penn varsity men were bothered by the absence of a training table, they never started right, and it is possible to explain the long string of injuries they received last fall.

Brooklanders "Great" Record.
We are informed that Ed O'Brien, the Catholic University basketball star, "went through a remarkable season. He did not commit a personal or technical foul during the whole season." Great stuff! But why give all the honors to Ed O'Brien, good as he is?

Glancing more carefully at the records of last season, it is seen that not a single C. U. player is credited with personal or technical fouls. This "record" is not equaled by any team in the country, not to stop at the Third Atlantic section.

The answer is simple. Crotty, the C. U. forward, was manager of his team. How in the world could he keep records and play at the same time? He didn't even try. He let somebody else do the record-keeping and the substitute failed to take any notice of personal or technical fouls.

So far as C. U. is concerned, the record book is extremely good to the Brooklanders, but it is also exceedingly wrong.

BASKETERS TO MEET.
Intercollegiate Basketball League officials and coaches will get together tonight at the Y. M. C. A. at 8 p. m. for a rules interpretation meeting. President C. Edward Beckett will be in charge.

GOLFERS PUZZLED ABOUT ORDERS TO CLOSE UP CLUBS

Although New York and Baltimore country clubs are planning to close their doors to conserve coal, following the request of the Government, Washington golfers are wondering when they will be asked to close their doors in obedience to the request of the fuel administration.

So far as can be learned the Government has not asked the Washington country and golf clubs to close their doors from January 15 to March 15, and has been the case elsewhere.

The request of the fuel administration to the clubs of New York and Baltimore was a qualified one. It was not asked to close the club where a great inconvenience would result.

The Maryland Country Club, of Baltimore, will decide tomorrow night on an action to close the club. The Baltimore Country Club had heard nothing of the Government request.

Both the Chevy Chase Club and the Columbia Country Club have heard nothing from the Fuel Administration. A. B. Shelton, secretary of the Columbia Country Club, stated today that no mention had been made of any request from the Fuel Administration at the meeting of the board of governors night before last.

W. T. Bingham, manager of the Chevy Chase Club, said no attention had been called at the club of the proposed closure of the club during the winter months.

At the Washington Golf and Country Club nothing could be learned of any proposal to close the club. None of the other clubs that have social activities were expecting to close up for the winter months to conserve fuel, and it was said that little would be saved by closing down entirely.

POLICE PICK REFEREES FOR BALTIMORE BOUTS

BALTIMORE, Dec. 20.—Backed by the police board, Deputy Marshal Sam House has begun cleaning up the boxing game in this city. His first action has been to relieve Abe Ullman and Harry Jeffries from all duties as referees, appointing Buck Alexander and Tony Geiger as referees for preliminaries, and naming Capt. James Patrick O'Donovan, of the British army, as the only eligible official for star bouts.

Preliminary officials may appear at local fights, but all clubs and theaters must use referees in turn, not holding to any one arbiter.

All boxers must report to police headquarters twenty-four hours before entering the ring.

DOWN THE ALLEYS.
Akers and Lutkehaus, of the Commissioners, force all the little pin bowlers to take a back seat today. In the big pin circuit, amateur Washington Tenpin League bowlers Akers rolled 230, 193, and 200. Lutkehaus rolled a 242 game for the high honor. The Commissioners won all three.

Raum, of Continentals in the District circuit, knocked down 115, 148, and 98 in three games against the Westons and his team won two games.

Davis and Heindel, of the Miscellaneous team, in the Navy Yard circuit, helped their team again but were unsuccessful. They rolled sets averaging better than 100, but the Radios got in games of 535, 437, and 481.

Nationals took two out of three from St. John's and Ancia got the same number from Dawson in the Masonic League.

Sycamore grabbed three from Racar and Washington Canoe Club bowlers galloped off with three from the Colonials in the Nautical Duckpin League.

SEMI-FINALS ON TODAY.
NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Players in the national handicap squash tennis tournament, being held here at the Yale Club, reached the semi-final round today. The matches scheduled in the semi-finals brought together F. Van S. Hyde and R. L. Streibich, and J. V. Onativia, Jr., and J. W. Appel. J. Appel won the national title last year.

SCHOOLBOY BASEBALL IN 1918 TO START APRIL 19

Baseball in the Inter-High School Baseball League will be restricted to ten games again in 1918, following the adoption of the schedule by the board of faculty advisers.

Just what was conditions will do to baseball this spring is not known, but the advisers, for the first time in many years, have gotten out the schedule ahead of time so that the schools can figure upon their games.

The first game of the schedule will be played April 19 between Eastern and Business. The other games have been arranged for Tuesdays and Fridays during the remainder of April and May.

The complete list of dates follows: April 19—Business vs. Eastern. April 23—Western vs. Technical. April 26—Central vs. Eastern. April 30—Business vs. Technical. May 3—Central vs. Western. May 7—Eastern vs. Technical. May 10—Business vs. Western. May 14—Technical vs. Central. May 17—Western vs. Eastern. May 21—Business vs. Central.

Business will open the season with Eastern and close with Central. No grounds have been sought for the games as yet.

The date for the annual field and track championships to be held in the Central Stadium has been set for May 18. Athletic activities will close on May 21 with the Central-Business baseball game. Little is known at this time of any other track meets in the vicinity.

Western will have the services of several former stars during the holidays. Raymond Peck, of the Penn basketball team; Robert Lerner, of Lawrenceville; Stuart Smith, a former Westerner; Donald Herron and Willard Johnstone, of last year's team, and one or two others have promised to practice against the Red and White youngsters.

Tech will be unable to meet its date with the Boys' Y. M. C. A. team Friday night, having notified Coach Fuller, of the "Y," to that effect. Tech, like the other schools, has been riddled by absences of boys on Christmas work.

St. Albans School basketballs will quit their floor activities tomorrow until after the holidays. Several of the other schools will play right through until the first of the year.

The high school basketball championship series opens up almost immediately after the holidays. Tech and Business and Western and Central are due to appear on January 4 at the Y. M. C. A. in the first of the titular engagements.

Central High School meets the Baltimore Polytechnic team in the Central gymnasium tomorrow. It is expected that Central will send Dave Wilson at center, which should make a great difference in the strength of the team. Wilson was out of the Baltimore City game the other day, and Central got licked.

Track activities may be cut down to a minimum in the schools this winter for lack of incentive. Several schools are facing cross-country work instead of training for sprint and relay racing. There is a possibility that there will be no indoor track games here this winter as no hall can be obtained to stage games.

Eastern will do little basketball until after the holidays. The Capitol Hill lads appear the last of the high school fives in the title series.

KNOCKOUT BROWN MUST FIGHT FOR UNCLE SAM

George Knockout Brown, of Chicago, who was to have met Tom Gibbons, of St. Paul, at the Ardmore Club January 9, 1918, will very likely be unable to appear, as he has passed the examinations for service in the national army. Manager Freeman, of the Ardmore Club, will now have to find a substitute for Brown.

Jack McCarron, of Philadelphia, is said to be anxious to come to Ardmore and battle Tom Gibbons, or any other middleweight the club can find for him. McCarron is a tough man who always gives the fans a run for their money, and he may be given a chance with Gibbons.

WILL HOLD BIG MEET.
NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—The annual national indoor championships of the A. A. U. will be held here some time in February, the exact date to be announced soon.

CALL OFF DOG SHOW.
It is unlikely that the Washington Kennel Club will stage its annual bench show this season owing to lack of a suitable hall. Such action is expected to be taken at the coming meeting.

LIEUTENANT RICE NOW.
GREENVILLE, S. C., Dec. 20.—It's now illeu. Grantland Rice, 115th Field Artillery, for the well-known sports writer, who enlisted as a private in his old regiment two weeks ago, was given a commission yesterday.

CALLS RING LAW INVALID.
NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Magistrate Corrigan questions the validity of the anti-boxing law. He says that, in his opinion, it will be decided unconstitutional, if tested.

ALEXANDER WANTS "CUT."
CHICAGO, Dec. 20.—Grover Cleveland Alexander wants a fifth of the \$50,000 alleged to have been paid for him by the Cubs. He says that the Philadelphia club should pay it.

MAY AID WITH MONEY.
While no move has been made as yet to assist the movement among bowlers in New York to help raise a fund of \$1,000,000, it is confidently expected in bowling circles here that the pin men will do their part.

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Because of the war, which caused a number of cancellations last season, the American Kennel Club has decided to suspend its old law calling for a forfeiture of the sanction money whenever a show is not held. Three clubs were guilty of coselling advertised and sanctioned bench shows last summer, but their forfeit money has been returned by the A. K. C. at the regular quarterly meeting held at New York.

Contrary to the report, there was no disagreement or opposition to the new rules over the unit rating for championships, or the licensing of judges. Later on there may be some minor changes in the rating rule, but it will not affect the Westminster Kennel Club's big show in February.

Two new delegates were elected in C. H. Perrin, of the Chicago Collie Club, and William Ross Proctor, of the Sealyham Terrier Club, of New York.

\$7,000 FOR SMOKE FUND.
PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 20.—With Benny Leonard, Mike O'Dowd, and Pete Herman, three champions, as headliners, \$7,000 was collected at last night's boxing show here for the soldiers' smoke fund. The Olympia A. C. was packed and the bouts were all fast and exciting.

HERZOG FOR BRAVES.
NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Buck Herzog will go to the Braves in a three-cornered deal to be announced in a day or so. The Giants and Cubs will figure in the trade.

MAKE RODGERS CAPTAIN.
MORGANTOWN, W. Va., Dec. 20.—Errett Rodgers, of Wellsburg, W. Va., star in the West Virginia backfield for the past two years, has been elected varsity captain for 1918.

Our Best Tea, lb.53c
13 oz. Cal. Sardines.15c
Mammoth Herring.4 for 25c
Wonder Coffee20c
1 lb. Star Cocos.35c
15 lb. White Potatoes.25c
20 oz. Cans Baking Soda.15c
412 Fourth Street S. E. and All the
J. T. D. PYLES STORES